The Bible & Daily Living

On facing life's many troubles

By WILLIAM L. TRIMYER
Lesson for March 11, 1984
FACING LIFE'S OPPOSITION
Bible study passages: Mark 2:15-17, 23-28; 3:1-6
INTRODUCTION

It is rather painful to pass through troublesome times alone. The Psalmist said with confidence, "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me." (Ps. 23:4) The good news for people of faith is that we cannot pass through darkness without God's abiding presence.

In times of opposition we may long for another "warm body" to stand with us against the opposing forces. It is a lonely feeling to find oneself on the front line of battle facing the enemy alone.

Perhaps you've had a recent experience in which you faced some opposition, only to discover to your amazement and disappointment that you were abandoned to go it alone. At such a time it may be easier to "retreat from battle" than to go ahead alone. After all, there is security in numbers.

This week's lesson looks at the opposition Jesus faced throughout his ministry. We will note how he persued his mission in spite of the opposition and the abandonment he experienced from his disciples.

JESUS HOBNOBS WITH SINNERS

Jesus was not a "southern aristocrat!" He was not surrounded by the "upper crust" of society. He sought to associate with the "lower crust" and the down and out. His critics ridiculed him because he sat down to eat with "publicans and sinners." These critics refused to associate with anyone who had not repented and lived according to Jewish rituals. Jesus, on the other hand, willingly enjoyed an intimate meal with those who were considered as "rejects."

We may learn a good lesson from the example of Jesus. When we associate only with the elite or those who meet our standards, we cut ourselves off from those who may need us the most. If we distance ourselves from the needy, we miss the meaning of discipleship and Christ's call to proclaim the good news.

JESUS AND THE SABBATH

The early Jewish lost its positive meaning because it became burdened with petty rules and regulations. It became unlawful to pick grain on the sabbath no matter how hungry a person might be. Jesus points to the example of David and how he ate the holy bread reserved only for priests. The point Jesus made was that human need takes priority over rigid observance of religious ritual.

Jesus went a step further and proclaimed his lordship over the sabbath. Such a proclamation stunned and angered the Pharisees.

JESUS BUCKS TRADITION (Mk. 3:1

On one occasion the opposition to Jesus sought to trap him in the synagogue. Upon entering Jesus met a man with a deformed hand. Jesus knew what was going on in the minds of the Pharisees, so he took the occasion to confront their narrowness of mind and heart.

The Pharisees believed that the sick could only be helped on the Sabbath if it was a life and death matter. Jesus confronted their hardness of heart by declaring that human need preceds ritual observance. His critics were shamed into silence by his questions: "Is it lawful to do good on the sabbath days, or to do evil? To save life, or to kill?"

Class members may take time to consider the following questions:

1. Do any of your personal beliefs interfere with another person's desire to come to Christ and the Church?
2. Can you identify any petty rules your church has that may hinder its effective witness?
3. Can you identify any traditions in your belief or your church which stand in the way of humanitarian service?

Dr. Trimyer is chaplain at Burnham Hospital in Champaign, Ill. (WLYP).

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PEYTON CUMBY, left, of the Spout Spring Ruritan Club offers a ticket for drawing to be held May 8 to Cindy Bollinger. Proceeds from the drawing will be used for the Community Development Project of the club. You do not have to be present to win the Zenith 25 inch color console TV with remote control. A dollar donation allows participation in the drawing. (Photo by Bill Sherrod)

Galilee Baptist Church news

Regular preaching services were held at Galilee Baptist Church this past Sunday. Pastor Davis delivered a stirring sermon and the senior choir rendered beautiful selections.

On Sunday night, the Galilee Usher board celebrated their 17th anniversary. The Rev. Harry Pilson and choir from the Rivermont Baptist Church of Lynchburg were special guests. A very large crowd enjoyed the special celebration.

On March 18, at 5 p.m. the program will be sponsored by the building fund committee. Please come out and help us.

Please remember prayer services are held at Galilee each Wednesday night at 7 p.m. Come out and receive your blessings. Prayer changes things. May we count on you?

Mr. and Mrs. Bigger of York, Pa. and son were in Appomattox to visit Brother Dee Ferguson who is hospitalized. Brother Henry Palmer is improving.

Let us all pray for all conditions of the world. Love thy neighbor as thyself. Have a good week and love to everyone from Galilee.

Times-Virginian

WORSHIP

Zion Baptist news

By SUSIE HUNTER

Regular preaching service was held at the Zion Baptist Church Sunday. The Senior Choir rendered beautiful music. Everyone enjoyed the sermon.

The Pastor's Aid Committee will meet Wednesday, March 7 at 7 p.m. at the Zion Baptist Church.

You are invited to prayer and Bible study at Zion Baptist Church Thursday night at 7 p.m.

The Ladies Aid organization will meet Sunday at 2 p.m. at the church.

The Deacon Board's 8th Anniversary will be held on Sunday at 4 p.m. The Heavenly Gospel Singers will be special guests.

Mr. Henry Callaway of the Pamplin Community, died Sunday in Southside Hospital. Plans for funeral arrangements will be announced later. Our sympathy is extended to the family.

We are praying for the sick everywhere.

Our sympathy goes out to the Scott family in the loss of their loved one, Deacon Walter Scott of St. Luke Church.

Revival set at Clearview Baptist

Revival services will be conducted at Clearview Baptist Church beginning March 12, and continuing through March 16, starting at 7:30 each evening.

Guest speaker for the revival will be the Rev. Clifford Phillips from Gaffney, S.C.

Special singing will be featured during each night's service.

The church is located on State Route 670 (the old Rock Quarry Road) near Rustburg.

The public is cordially invited to these revial services.

Canaan Baptist news

The regular Canaan Baptist Church business meeting will be held Saturday, March 10 at 7 p.m.

The regular worship service at Canaan Baptist will be held the second Sunday, March 11, at 11:30 a.m. The Rev. C.L. Elliott will be pastor in charge. The Canaan Echoes will provide music.

Rally Day is slated for March 18, and will begin at 3 p.m. The new pews will be dedicated at this service. Guest speaker will be the Rev. Dorn Lewis. One of his choirs will provide music. Mrs. Edith Ferguson and Mrs. Sabra Ferguson will be in charge of this event.

The public is invited to visit and worship at Canaan Baptist.

Picnic planned

The Appomattox Ministerial Association is planning a Labor Day picnic on Sept. 3.

The planning committee will meet at the Appomattox Baptist Association Office March 22 at 7 p.m. The office is located on the corner of Church Street, across from the old Poe Hardware building.

Promise Land news

We extend an invitation to worship with us this Sunday at 10 a.m. for Sunday School and 11 a.m. for preaching service.

On March 11, 1984 at 3 p.m. the Springhill Gospel Chorus will render music in concert. Come out and hear some wonderful singing.

Let us remember the sick and shut-in.

The Heritage Inn

SUNDAY SPECIALS

Pan Fried Chicken with honey, Choice of Vegetable, Mashed Potatoes, Gravy, Homemade Rolls.
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Shoe Show

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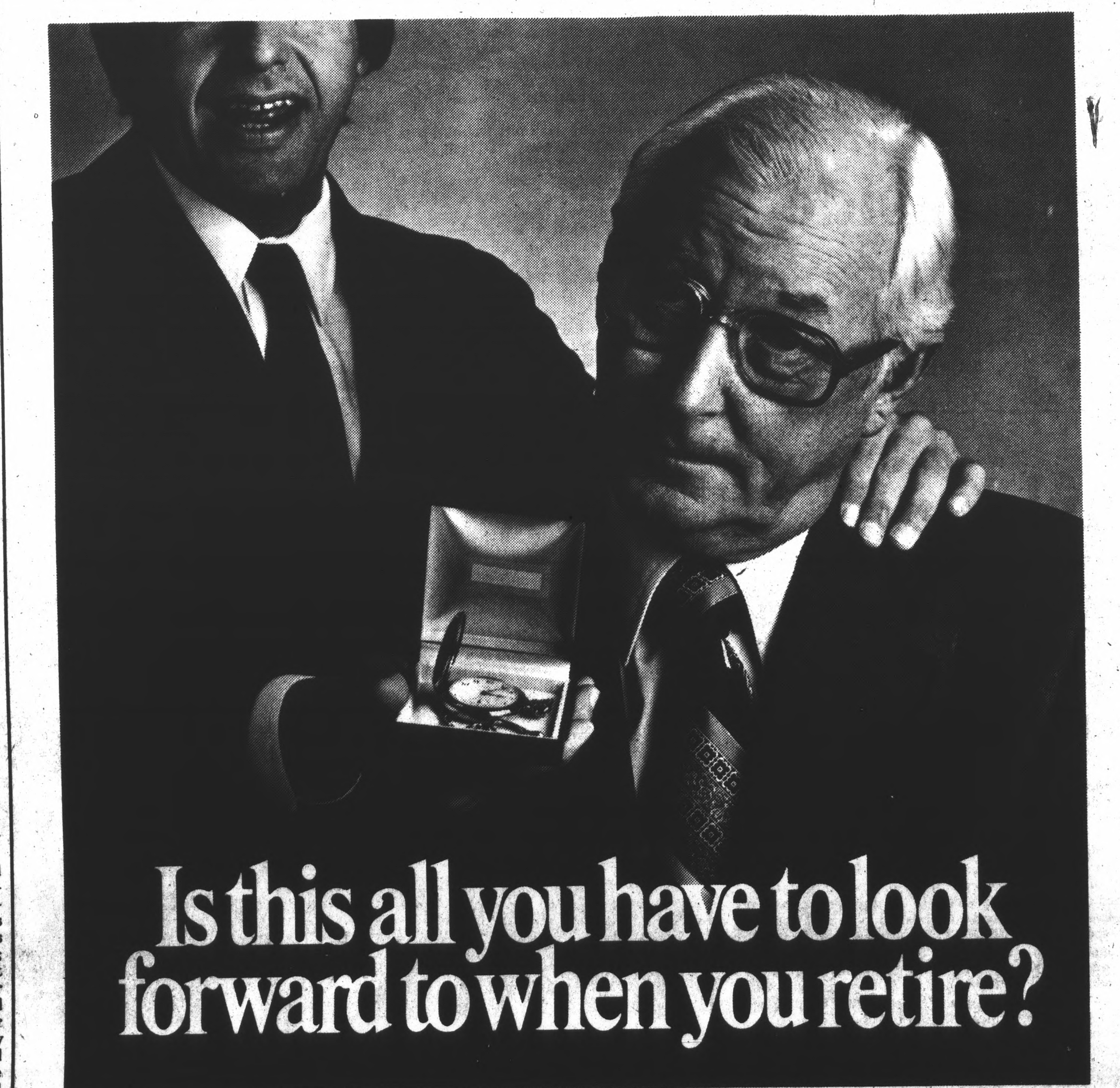
Name change

The Easter Seal Society for Crippled Children and Adults, Inc., of Virginia in keeping with the national trend, has changed and shortened its corporate name to The Easter Seal Society of Virginia, Inc. The Easter Seal Societies nationwide in their roles as advocates for the rights of disabled people have always placed strong emphasis on providing direct services adapted to local community needs and resources.

The Easter Seal Society in Virginia was organized in 1944 in Roanoke where it is still headquartered and although the name has changed, the provision of services and programs to the disabled and their families will not be affected. Last fiscal year, 22,753 Virginians received services through the Easter Seal Society's 12 outpatient centers and the camping and recreatrion programs.

While adapted to individual community needs, the Virginia Society now provides such services as diagnosis, evaluation and theraphy for children and adults with speech or language disorders; short-term loan of prescribed rehabilitative equipment; purchase assistance for prescribed rehabilitive equipment; occupational theraphy; physical therapy; Parent-Infant Education Program for parents and their disabled infants birth to two years of age; support groups for adult stroke victims, and their families; camping and recreational activities for mentally and physically disabled children and adults; advocacy for the disabled and educational programs for schools, clubs and organizations.



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Home Office—615 Church St., Lynchburg, Va.

Deadline for opening an IRA plan for 1983 is April 15, 1984.

Month of March

AES Menu

Mar. 5 - Beef & cheese pizza, tomato & lettuce salad w/dressing, pear halves, milk.

Mar. 6 - Corn dogs w/mustard, lima beans, baby carrots, school made peanut butter cookies, fruit, milk.

Mar. 7 - Chicken pot pie, tossed garden salad, potato chips, mandarin oranges, milk.

Mar. 8 - Burritoes, cole slaw, vegetarian beans, diced peaches, milk.

Mar. 9 - Crispy oven fish, green peas, hot rolls, french fries, applesauce, milk.

Mar. 12 - Hot dog on bun w/chili, pork & beans, cole slaw, diced pineapple, milk.

Mar. 13 - Sliced turkey w/gravy, french style green beans, creamy potatoes, hot rolls, fruit cup, milk.

Mar. 14 - Ravioli casserole w/cheese & beef, hot rolls, mixed vegetables, french fries w/catsup, apricots, milk.

Mar. 15 - Sliced ham, hot rolls, mixed greens, french fries, juice cup, milk.

Mar. 16 - Cheeseburgers, peas & carrots, french fries w/catsup, vanilla pudding, milk.

Mar. 19 - Hot dog on bun, pork & beans, chilled tomatoes, mandarin oranges, milk.

Mar. 20 - Oven fried chicken, green beans, creamy potatoes, sliced bread, sliced peaches, milk.

Mar. 21 - Meatloaf, baby lima beans, corn, hot rolls, fruit cup, milk.

Mar. 22 - Beef nuggets, mixed vegetables w/tomatoes, apple turnovers, hot rolls, milk

Mar. 23 - Sausage patties, french fries, green peas, apple sauce, hot rolls, milk.

Mar. 26 - Vegetable beef soup w/crackers, bologna & cheese sandwich, apple cobbler, milk.

Mar. 27 - Spaghetti w/meat sauce, tossed garden salad w/dressing, pineapple chunks, hot rolls, milk.

Mar. 28 - Chicken nuggets, green beans, boiled potatoes, apple sauce, hot rolls, milk.

Mar. 29 - Beef steakum w/cheese & pickle chips, french fries, green peas, chocolate pudding, milk.

Mar. 30 - Pizza burger w/pickle chips, scandinavian mixed vegetables, sliced peaches, milk.

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MARCH 9 & 10

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